July 21, 2008 Morning Highlights 2008-53 Contact: Public Affairs, 356-5511

WILDLAND FIRE UPDATE

Alaska

No new wildland fires were reported to the Alaska Interagency Coordination Center over the weekend. Statewide, there are 40 active fires which are being monitored. No fires are staffed at this time

According to the Alaska Interagency Coordination Center a statewide total of 323 fires to date have burned approximately 75,246 acres.

Lower- 48

As of July 19, a total of 605 Alaskans from State and Federal agencies are assigned to fires outside of Alaska.

The sixth group of five Emergency Firefighter (EFF) crews left Alaska for fire assignments in California on Saturday, July 19. The crews are: Buckland, Mt. Village, Stebbins #1, Tok and Holy Cross.

New large fires were reported yesterday in Colorado, Montana, Texas and Utah. Currently, 25 large fires and complexes have burned more than 627,000 acres. Firefighters continue to make good progress on the large fires in California. Fire managers prepositioned crews, engines, and aircraft to prepare for predicted dry lightning in Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming.

Australia, New Zealand, and Canada are providing 59 fire specialists and managers to assist with fire suppression operations in California. Canada is also providing two crews to California.

Four MAFFS C-130 air tankers are supporting the State of California. The aircraft are based at McClellan Airport in Sacramento, California. The aircraft are provided by the 145th Airlift Wing, Charlotte, North Carolina, the 302nd Airlift Wing, Colorado Springs, Colorado and the 153rd Airlift Wing, Cheyenne, Wyoming.

BURN PERMIT INFORMATION

Burn permits are issued by the Alaska Division of Forestry. To obtain burn permits and information about permitted burn restrictions, please contact your local Division of Forestry office:

 Fairbanks Area:
 907-451-2626

 Delta Area:
 907-895-2106

 Tok Area:
 907-883-5134

 Mat-Su District:
 907-761-6312

 Kenai-Kodiak Area:
 907-260-4269

Valdez/ Copper River Area: 907-822-5536
Northern Southeast Area (Skagway/ Haines): 907-766-2120
For additional State of Alaska burn permit information, please visit: http://forestry.alaska.gov/burn/

*In Anchorage, please contact the Anchorage Fire Department's Wildfire Mitigation Office at 267-5020.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCES

- Alaska Interagency Coordination Center: http://fire.ak.blm.gov/
 - o Map of Current Fires: http://fire.ak.blm.gov/predsvcs/maps.php
 - o Situation Report: http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/aicc/sitreport/current.pdf
 - o National Fire Situation: http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/sitreprt.pdf
 - Guide to Wildland Fire Suppression in AK: http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/news/flash/Media%20Guide%20to%20AK%20Wildla nd%20Fire%20Suppression.pdf
- Alaska Wildland Fire Coordinating Group- Education and Reference Materials: http://fire.ak.blm.gov/administration/awfcg.php
- Creating Defensible Space: http://firewise.org/ and http://forestry.alaska.gov/pdfs/06Firewise.pdf
- Department of Transportation (Road Closure Info): (907) 451-2240, http://511.alaska.gov/
 Alaska Division of Forestry (Burn Permit Info): http://forestry.alaska.gov/burn/
- Department of Environmental Conservation (Smoke Concerns): http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/am/smoke.htm
- National Parks Service: http://www.nps.gov/akso/Fire/firehome.htm
- National Weather Service: http://www.nws.noaa.gov/
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife: http://www.fws.gov/fire/
- USDA Forest Service: http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/
- Anchorage Fire Department: www.muni.org/fire
- Temporary Flight Restriction Information: http://airspace.nifc.gov/mapping/nifc/
- Federal Aviation Administration: http://www.faa.gov/

AICC Morning Highlights is compiled by Maggie Rogers, Alaska Division of Forestry, and Doug Stockdale, Alaska Fire Service. Note: Fire acreage estimates frequently change due to more accurate mapping and other factors.

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